

THE ARIZONA REPUBLICAN

PHOENIX, ARIZONA
Published Every Morning by the
ARIZONA PUBLISHING COMPANY
All communications to be addressed to the Company:
office, corner of Second and Adams Streets.
Entered at the Postoffice at Phoenix, Arizona, as
Mail Matter of the Second Class.

President and General Manager, Dwight B. Heard
Business Manager, Charles A. Stauffer
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—IN ADVANCE
Daily and Sunday, one year, \$8.00
Daily and Sunday, six months, 4.00
Daily and Sunday, three months, 2.00
Daily and Sunday, one month, .75

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Receiving Full Night Report, by Leased Wire.

TELEPHONES
Business, Advertising or Circulation, 422
Editorial or News, 433
Job Printing, 429
General Advertising Representative, Robert E. Ward,
New York Office, Brunswick Building, Chicago,
Advertising Building.

SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 13, 1916

Soldiers do not make wars, soldiers
end wars, and I believe that America
is going to stand for preparation—
for war if necessary—but for the
preparation that I hope and pray may
prevent war.
—Thomas Nelson Page.

The Meaning of a Railroad Strike

Though the railway strike has not yet been declared, and though both the railway managers and the brotherhood leaders are yet in the stage of bluff, the rest of us may as well be considering the effect of a strike which would be the bitterest, most far-reaching one, in the industrial history of the country. There would be involved in it directly 400,000 men. How many more would be involved indirectly and more or less remotely, we do not know, but the number would mount up into the hundreds of thousands. We assume that the wages of the 400,000 directly involved amount to \$2,000,000 a day, about one-third as much as the European war is costing Great Britain. Probably the wages of others more or less remotely involved would amount to twice as much so that the total loss a day would equal Great Britain's daily war bill. All this money would be as effectually lost to the country at large as if it had been shot away in shell and shrapnel, notwithstanding it would still remain in the hands of the owners of the roads or in the hands of shippers and other patrons of the roads. Money not in circulation, so far as the country is concerned, is the same as no money. So far as money loss is concerned, in the case of such a strike as impends we might as well be engaged in a great war.

The cost of a war of course, is not the chief burden. Nor would the loss of money to the United States through a country-wide railroad strike be the chief loss. The disaster would be felt in every city, every hamlet and every home in the country. Business would be brought into a state of suspension more nearly complete than if an actual war existed. Industries would cease. The whole country would be in an attitude of heartbreaking suspense and waiting. In that respect we would be much worse off than any of the warring countries of Europe outside of the war zones, for there they have means of communication. There factories are humming, there the merchants are busy and there the people can buy whatever they have money to buy.

A prolonged railroad strike in this country would push many an industrial concern and many a merchant against the wall. Scores, yes, hundreds of newspapers throughout the country, dependent upon the railroads for weekly or monthly supplies of print paper (there are no reserve stocks) would be compelled to suspend publication. The products of the farm could not be moved and all that is perishable would be lost. There would be a general paralysis.

We think that both the railroads and the heads of the brotherhoods will hesitate to bring on such a situation. Though neither is disposed to concede anything so as to give the board of mediation, a point of beginning, the railroads have placed themselves favorably before the country by offering to submit the dispute to arbitration. If the brotherhoods finally reject arbitration they will be held responsible for whatever distress may ensue.

The roads cannot very well yield in a personal fight between themselves and their employees for that would probably mean another fight and a further yielding at the expiration of any agreement that might be made. If a board of arbitration should award to the brotherhoods all they ask, the roads would be left in a position to ask that their losses might be made up to them by increased rates.

As we have before suggested this dispute should be left to settlement by the interstate commerce commission which is more familiar with railroad conditions affecting both the roads and their employees than any other body. An award by the commission of the demands would probably be followed by an authorization from the same source to increase rates, the present rates being based in part on present wage and labor conditions.

It is not for the public to judge whether the demands of the brotherhoods are just or not; or whether if they are just, the roads can afford to meet them without an increase of their own income. That is something that cannot be left to the roads to decide nor can it be left to the brotherhoods to decide. The public is a party to the dispute. The dispute must be settled if we are to avoid disaster by a disinterested body with a full knowledge of all the facts, in order that justice may be done to the railroads, their employees and the public.

The Woman's Party and Mr. Hughes

While the action of the convention of the Woman's Party at Colorado Springs was not a formal endorsement of the candidacy of Mr. Hughes, it practically amounts to that. It is a commendation of his expressed views on the subject of national suffrage. Likewise, the equal suffrage planks of the progressive, prohibition and socialist parties are commended. Mr. Hughes and all these parties favoring a federal amendment to the constitution will no doubt receive votes of members of the Woman's Party, but Mr. Hughes will almost certainly receive the bulk of the votes, those of the practical members who are voting not for principle alone but for the earliest possible results.

A vote for the prohibition or socialist candidate for president (there is no progressive candidate) would be a vote for principle alone, without the slightest prospect of a result. A vote for Mr. Hughes will be a vote to place an advocate of national equal suffrage in a commanding position. It will also be a

vote against Mr. Wilson, who is openly hostile to national suffrage, favoring it only by states, when he knows that hardly within a generation will it be accepted or even be given respectful consideration in the southern states.

Jersey City's Self Protection

The injunction proceedings brought by a carrier to have set aside a prohibition by the authorities of Jersey City against the movement of munition trains through that municipality, brings up an apparent conflict of authority. It is contended on the part of the carrier that the action of the city authorities contravenes the interstate commerce act relative to the movement of commodities through the states and it plainly does so. Jersey City has just seen how dangerous a munition train may be or munitions brought into the municipality to be stored there for a time awaiting shipment by water, all of which plainly comes under the authorization of the interstate commerce act.

At the same time cities are allowed by the constitution to exercise certain police powers for the protection of the lives and property of their inhabitants. It has been amply demonstrated that the people of Jersey City needed protection a week or so ago against the presence of stored or passing munitions. Under a higher authority than the interstate commerce act one may set up a gunpowder factory, a glue factory or a slaughter house. We believe the right to engage in any of these enterprises may be traced back to the very constitution of the United States which imposes no restrictions as to the location of such industries. They may, so far as the constitution is concerned, be located in the heart of a city. But cities exercising their police powers prohibit the location of them in places where they would be dangerous or offensive to the public.

The movement of munitions though has not such freedom as the location of factories. The roads in reaching shipping points must pass through cities for their terminals are at the waterfronts of cities and towns and cannot well be at any other place. Still, human life should not be menaced on account of this disability of the railroads. It is less important that munitions should be shipped or manufactured than that lives should be destroyed, by explosions incident to the movement of such dangerous commodities.

War News

We have frequently during the last two years called attention to the unsatisfactory, one-sided character of the European war news which is really not news at all but comments upon engagements, real and some imaginary, given out by French, British and Russian officials. They bristle with adjectives in which "brave," "gallant," "intrepid" figure so frequently in descriptions of the conduct of the allied troops. Where it has been admitted in these official dispatches that the Germans have made gains, it is almost invariably stated that they have been "repulsed." We recall that in the early days of the war the Germans were "repulsed" almost daily until they arrived before Paris. In the Teutonic drive of the Russians last summer the Austro-Germans were "repulsed" regularly until the Russians had been driven out of Poland, the Baltic provinces, Vilna, Minsk and Volhynia.

Recent accounts of the allied offensive impress one as threatening a collapse of the central powers. It is only when one consults a map that he learns how little has been accomplished by the offensive at a terrific cost on either front. If one should take a file of a daily newspaper covering the last two months, and make a compilation of the Russian claims of prisoners taken, he would find that practically as many Austrians as composed the armies in Galicia were now in the hands of the Russians, leaving none to have been killed or wounded.

Of the Teutonic side we know nothing except what comes in brief wireless messages to Sayville, New Jersey, through which we first heard of the battle of Jutland hours afterward. All Berlin dispatches by the way of London are censored or withheld altogether. This unprecedented and senseless way of handling war news has called out a protest from American war correspondents in Germany according to the following wireless:

"BERLIN, August 1 (via wireless to Sayville, N. Y.).—American newspaper correspondents in Germany have united in an appeal to Ambassador Gerard to urge the American government to take steps to secure the transmission of legitimate cable news without interference by the British censorship.

"The correspondents have drawn up a declaration charging that dispatches on political and military events are being suppressed, mutilated, or delayed by the London censors. They declare they are unable to present to the American public true and fair statements of the most important events of the war.

"The declaration is signed by James O'Donnell Bennett of the Chicago Tribune, Oswald F. Schuetze and Raymond E. Swing of the Chicago Daily News, Karl H. von Wiegand of the New York World, C. H. Ackerman of the United Press, Conger of the Associated Press, Enderis of the International News Service, Brown of the New York Times and Hale of the New York American.

It is probable that a very large majority of Americans are in sympathy with the allies but their sympathies are not strengthened by the allies' palpably false news of the war. There was some sense in their describing imaginary successes while the Anglo-French loan was pending. Lying then was strategic, and on the theory that "all is fair in love and war," it was pardonable. But unless they are constantly trying to float loans in this country there is no sense in filling us up with facts that are not facts, or in withholding German news of military happenings.

William B. Cleary's ultimatum to President Wilson brought earlier results than might have been expected. We supposed it was only the beginning of a long succession of notes. We are surprised that the administration surrendered so quickly.

Another day has passed without an outcry from Secretary Redfield of the department of commerce, who is presumed to be suffering from indigestion traceable to the Durand letter.

A HOPELESS TASK

I told a grim reformer once, as boldly as could be, "I know you have reformed some folks; now try your skill on me!" He looked me over, then turned away, and with an acrid smile, He said, "Perhaps I could do so, but think it's not worth while. To rectify a man like you so much needs be done 'Twould leave you like a parrot with ribs and cover gone!" —Tennyson J. Daft.

ECONOMICAL

Hub—"Look here, Mary, it was only last month I paid a dressmaker's bill of \$74, and here is another one for \$69."

Wife—"Well, dear, doesn't that show that I am beginning to spend less?"—Boston Transcript.



The Flag and the Man

Where the People May Have Hearing

LOCAL OPTION AMENDMENT
To the Editor of the Republican:
A vote for this amendment is a vote for the return of the saloon. With one "wet" county or town in the state the whole state will be flooded with liquor and every community will be menaced by the evil. It is promoted by those who hope to profit by preying upon the people's weakness and vice of their fellow men.

This amendment provides that in every city, town or county an election can be held every two months if so desired and requirements are fulfilled. The liquor interests, whose profits are enormous and far greater than in any other industry, can well afford the expense of a campaign every two months, in order to ultimately gain their object. For their success they will depend upon wearing the people out with frequent elections, upon their becoming indifferent in oft repeated strikes, or they may hope to carry their point during the summer months when a large proportion of property holders and women are out of the state. If the saloon men had to work as hard for their money, as the laboring man to whom they sell their stuff, or have the same proportion of profits as merchants, we would never hear of local option or of any other fight for the liquor traffic.

It would set an unwise precedent for frequent elections, and aside from the great expense to cities, towns and counties, would if applied to other vital laws, make the government of our state very unstable. The cost of these frequent elections would be an enormous burden to the cities, towns and counties. But the saloon interests have no regard for anyone or anything but their own profit. Two years ago, when the "wets" believed that the state would remain wet, they proposed that no election on this question should be held for eight years. I quote from their argument: "It is of interest to know that during the past four years separate prohibition elections have cost the taxpayers of Arizona fully \$500,000, and this too when but five counties in the state conducted such elections. Arizona has fourteen counties, and should each hold prohibition elections every two years (as it is possible under the present law) in eight years it would be possible to run such elections expenses up to several hundreds of thousands of dollars." Then they claimed that the cost of four elections in eight years was enormous, yet now, if as many elections should be held as this amendment provides for, there would be forty-eight elections for such counties in the eight years.

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RUSSIAN LEADER IN GALICIA MAKES RAPID ADVANCE; THREATENS LEMBERG



General Sakharoff.

General Sakharoff is in command of the Russian forces which during the past few weeks have made a rapid and successful advance in Galicia and captured many thousands of Austrians. General Sakharoff's army now threatens Lemberg, which is the key to a vast field of oil wells, and to a district rich in lead and copper mines.

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th' Fourth next, I'll hold you Responsible for th' Conduct of Henry. If you can't control him I'll elect myself Senter to Succeed him.

"W. B. Cleary."
"Possibly—it's Needless for me to tell you 'at I'm in Earnest about this here."

"What art we to do about it?" asks th' President.

"They aint only Wan thing to be Done," replize Mister Tummlery, "an' that's to git Buzzy with this here Henry Ashurst."

"But how about them Negoshashuns with Keezer Bill an' Bill Cranzy," asks th' President.

"Let 'em Wait," sez Mister Tummlery, "less you'd rather have Windy Bill here in th' Senter'n to have Americans Blode up on th' Seize or a Wor with Mexico."

"That's so," sez th' President, "Rite a Note to th' Keezer Bill an' anuthen to Ole Bill Cranzy, tellin' 'em 'at I'll tend to their Matters as soon as I can git Around to it. But 'at jist now a More Vitle Subject Claimin' my im-mejit Atenshuh has suddently Come up."

LITTLE JAMES.

KRUPPS INDEPENDENT

THE HAGUE, Aug. 12. (Via London, Aug. 13, 2:49 a. m.)—The Frankfurter Zeitung learns from Vienna that the Arthur Krupp Metal Company has acquired the Mitterberger Copper Mine Company. The Krupps of Essen, thus become independent of the copper market.

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TWO WEEKS' QUARANTINE

(Republican A. P. Leased Wire)
LYNCHBURG, Va., August 12.—To guard against the spread of infantile paralysis local health officials announced tonight that all children under 15 years of age and adults accompanying them coming to Lynchburg from territory north of Virginia, will be quarantined for two weeks, whether or not they have health certificates.

THE WORLD'S BLESSINGS

"Work has become the blessing of the world. There is no greater happiness than that obtained through honest work. I do not pity you your hardships; I envy you your opportunities."

This is the summary of the philosophy of Jacob H. Schiff, one of the great captains of finance and development. Work for work's sake, plus happiness, plus health, plus provision; that is the conclusion of the Schiff philosophy. There is nothing in this world that is worth doing that is not inspired by an aim and purpose. The aim is to be useful, to have a part in life's activities; the purpose is that provision for age, for sickness, for those dependent on us. No man can avoid this responsibility and he must meet the personal question: WHAT PROVISION ARE YOU MAKING, and what care are you taking of that provision? A man isn't true to himself who isn't true to his obligation, to his responsibilities. The most inspiring and helpful thing in this life is to sit down and discuss these matters in the sacred confidences of home.

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